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THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE BIOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

THE annual scientific meetings of the Biological Societies (The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, The American Association of Anatomists and The American Society of Zoologists) will be held in the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, December 27, 28 and 29.

The Hotel Radisson will be headquarters for all the societies. Arrangements will also be made with fraternity and boarding houses for those desiring them.

The federation has arranged to hold a day session at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, on December 29. For this purpose arrangements have been made to have sleeping cars leave Minneapolis on the night of the 28th in order that no time shall be lost. The Mayo surgical hospitals will be visited, as will also the experimental laboratories and at the afternoon session a scientific program will be presented. Members of the federation should have their tickets from the east routed from Chicago to Minneapolis and from the west through Omaha or Kansas City to Minneapolis. Tickets for the return trip should be routed from Minneapolis over the Chicago and Great Western Railway to Rochester and from Rochester to Chicago for the east, and to Omaha or Kansas City for the west. Members of the Anatomical and Zoological Societies are cordially invited to attend this Rochester meeting if they care to do so, although programs for these societies have been arranged for the same date in Minneapolis.

There will be a joint dinner in the Gold Room, Hotel Radisson, on Thursday at 6:30 P.M. at \$1.50 per plate, also, a joint smoker will be held at the Teco Inn, Hotel Radisson, at 8:15 P.M. on Friday. Fifty-cent luncheons will be served at 1 P.M. in the Minnesota Union, University of Minnesota, each day throughout the meetings.

After full consideration by the executive committees and councils of the societies concerned, it has been decided to hold the meetings in Minneapolis on December 27, 28 and 29, as voted one year ago. This action is taken on the ground that *it would be disastrous to*

the progress of research and the best interests of the biological sciences if no annual meetings for the reporting of investigations, for the exchange of ideas and for mutual encouragement should be held.

The local committee at Minneapolis cordially endorses this decision on the part of the authorities of the several societies and desires to emphasize in addition the impetus that can be given to science in the northwest by a successful meeting at the University of Minnesota. To this end they are planning for a program of unusual interest. Not only will scientific papers of value be presented before the various societies—papers which in many instances will deal with matters pertaining to the war—but also visitors will have an opportunity to see the recent new laboratories of the University of Minnesota and especially to visit under the best of conditions the Mayo Clinic at Rochester and become acquainted with the research work going on there under the Mayo Foundation.

On behalf, therefore, of the University of Minnesota and with the cordial concurrence of its president and board of regents we invite you to attend these meetings. We urge you as a duty to science to help make the gathering a success. We believe that it is incumbent upon every scientific man to support the cause to which he has devoted his life, the cause of scientific progress. We, therefore, most respectfully and earnestly urge you to attend these meetings, to contribute to the programs, to take part in the discussions and to bring to the support of science the same loyalty and sacrifice that America is giving to every other basic principle of our civilization.

We also ask that you inform young scientists of your staff and acquaintance who are not yet members of the societies, concerning these meetings, and invite them to be present.

L. G. ROWNTREE,
Chairman, Local Committee

SECTION M (AGRICULTURE) OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AT PITTSBURGH

THE Section of Agriculture will hold sessions on Friday and Saturday, December 28 and 29. A symposium on the topic "Factors

concerned in an increased agricultural production" will be held on Friday afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock, the subject to be considered under the following five heads:

Present status of production, Dr. John Lee Coulter, dean of agriculture, West Virginia University.

Feasibility of increasing production, Dean E. Davenport, college of agriculture, University of Illinois.

Obstacles to enlarged production, Professor W. D. Hurd, assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Limiting factors in production, Professor Chas. E. Thorne, director of the Ohio Experiment Station.

The human element, Mr. Herbert Quick, member of the Federal Farm Loan Board.

The address of the retiring vice-president of the section, Dr. W. H. Jordan, director of the New York State Experiment Station, upon "The future of agricultural education and research in the United States," will be given on Saturday morning, December 29, at 11 o'clock. The sessions will be presided over by Dr. H. J. Waters, president of the Kansas State Agricultural College. They will be held in Room 105, Thaw Hall, University of Pittsburgh.

The symposium deals with a subject of the first importance to agriculture and to the welfare of the nation. It will be treated in a semi-popular manner, having in mind the broad general interest relating to it.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Royal Society has conferred Royal medals on Dr. John Aitken, for his researches on cloudy condensations, and on Dr. Arthur Smith Woodward, for his researches in vertebrate paleontology, and the Copley medal on M. Emile Roux, for his services to bacteriology and as a pioneer in serum therapy; the Davy medal on M. Albin Haller, for his researches in organic chemistry; the Buchanan medal on Sir Almroth Wright, for his contributions to preventive medicine; and the Hughes medal on Professor C. G. Barkla, for his work on X-ray radiation.

DR. CHRISTOPHER ADDISON, minister of reconstruction in Great Britain, has been ap-

pointed minister of public health, and hopes to carry a bill through parliament before Christmas, forming a new ministry to forward a place for the nationalization of the medical profession with free medical attendance for every one.

MAJOR BENEDICT CROWELL, of Cleveland, an engineer officer, now in charge of the Washington office of the Panama Canal, has been appointed assistant secretary of war to succeed William Ingraham, who has become surveyor of the Port of Portland.

DEAN KLEIN, of the veterinary department of the University of Pennsylvania, is at present in France, having been sent by the government on a special mission to General Pershing to consult him regarding the organization of the Veterinary Corps, and to make a survey of the situation in France.

DR. R. B. OWENS, secretary of the Franklin Institute, now in France on leave of absence, acting as head of the Army Intelligence Bureau, has been elevated to the rank of major. He is serving under General Pershing.

MR. GEORGE E. HOLM, research assistant in the division of agricultural biochemistry of the University of Minnesota, has been commissioned first lieutenant in the Sanitary Corps. He will be assigned to investigational work in the Gas Defense Service.

DR. CHARLES L. REESE, chemical director of the du Pont Powder Company, has been elected a member of the board of directors of that company.

MR. F. G. MOSES has been appointed hydro-metallurgist in the U. S. Bureau of Mines, with headquarters at Salt Lake City station.

J. W. TURRENTINE is directing the work of the government's experimental kelp-potash plant at Summerland, near Santa Barbara, Cal. The plant is in operation and is producing crude potash. Apparatus is now being installed which will make possible the production of refined potash and by-products, particularly iodine, for both of which chemicals there is a large demand for industrial and military purposes.